

Chestnut Stuffing

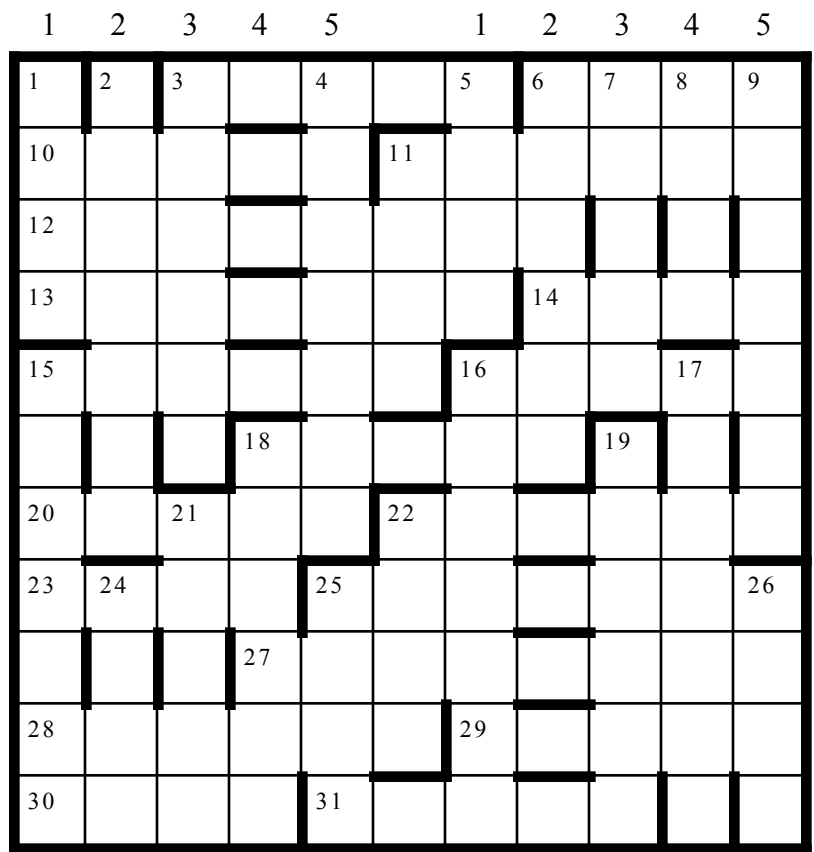
by Ucaoimhu

This recipe uses one chestnut and a lot of directions. Specifically, for nine clues the result of the wordplay (compared to the answer, which should be entered normally) is missing one letter and has an extra “arrowhead”; in the grid, you must draw a horizontal arrow from the missing letter to the column on the other side of the grid whose position is the same as the position of the arrowhead in the wordplay result. These arrows will indicate letter correspondences in a substitution cipher; you must encipher seven other answers thusly before entering them in the grid.

The letters connected by arrows, on each side of the grid, will also spell out two entities with a remarkable relationship to each other and to the current holiday. To see why, find the three clues with no definition part (just wordplay), and write each answer, shortened, to the left of the clue. (Note that one of these answers is uncommon, differing from a more common term by an arrowhead and another letter.) The results, as per the old math chestnut, will all be the same.

ACROSS

3. Each can avoid going to a restaurant (3 2)
6. Talk romantically about husband’s salmon (4)
10. Misguided one-period hockey games occur here (5)
11. Frothy liquid gets near kitchen equipment (6)
12. *The French Connection* has about eleven lapses in rigor (8)
13. Unfortunately, I’ve lost fruit-shaped fasteners (7)
14. Mentioned Ms. Buck, who wrote a computer programming language (4)
15. Those who fasten boots of outspoken, non-clerical gentlemen (6)
16. Archaic oath from vacuous vamp by a road (5)
18. Relating to a birth Nathan will put on the radio (5)
20. Originally, Wall Street had been unstable (5)
22. Heartlessly view whiskey drinks as most ironically humorous (6)
23. A cow is tidy (4)
25. Boy carrying rodents around (7)
27. Fantastical yarn about kitchen appliance (8)
28. A legendary cowgirl did start to eat a halogen compound (6)
29. Prudish English principal (5)
30. Television captivates half-wit’s clone (4)
31. A colt runs wild (5)



DOWN

1. Quietly leaves French fries for Greek characters (4)
2. Nonsense refrain by Garfunkel about rock that flows uphill (3-2-2)
3. Country is beginning to manufacture stripped-down dictionary (6)
4. Put out tear/dew! (7)
5. Anna baked Indian flatbread (4)
6. Five-fanged snake at feet of Balthazar and Melchior’s colleague (6)
7. Alternative Romanesque spelling of “exterior”? (5)
8. Shout about ladies (4)
9. Teacher using spoken language or literature to enthrall Virginia (7)
11. It enters nonsense data (4)
15. Realized money from Spooner’s legal action (7)
16. Cola-filled marshmallow candy that ultimately produces a sensory impression (7)
17. Wins the confidence of weird Mrs. Said (7)
18. Perverse director Craven and diarist Anaïs like clothing labels (4 2)
19. Send over camper with fruit you have raised (6)
21. *Aida* composer is overavid git ignoring odd items (5)
22. Told to produce cloth you and I own (2’2)
24. Bridge player changed seat (4)
25. Parties with a nincompoop (4)
26. More than one drain cleaner tells fibs out loud (4)